

## Domestic and International Disaster Relief Facts

### Domestic:

- Nine million American **children go hungry** each day.
- On any given night, 1.2 million American **children are homeless**.
- At least **39 states** nationwide are considered at-risk from moderate to great earthquakes.
- Annually, **landslides** result in 25 to 50 deaths and cause up to \$2 billion in damages.
- More than **1,000 tornadoes** touch down in the United States each year. These dangerous storms kill some 80 Americans each year, and injure about 1,500 others.
- Hurricane Katrina hit America's Gulf coast in August 2005, killing more than 1,300 people, driving an estimated **2.16 million** from their homes and causing an estimated **\$75 billion** in damage.
- Hurricane Katrina's effects were catastrophic on American education: an estimated **372,000** children were displaced from their local schools in Mississippi and Louisiana.

### International:

- On average, **62,000 people** a year are killed by natural disasters worldwide, and this number is expected to increase as population densities rise and more people are forced to live in disaster prone areas.
- The 7.6 magnitude earthquake that hit Pakistan and northern India in October 2005 claimed more than 73,000 lives and left more than **3.5 million people homeless** in Pakistan.
- The **powerful earthquake** that struck the Indonesian island of Java in May 2006 left as many as 1.5 million people homeless, claimed nearly 6,000 lives, injured over 37,000 more and damaged 400,000 homes, schools and businesses.
- Southeast Asia is still recovering from the **massive tsunami** that struck in December 2004. More than a quarter of a million people lost their lives and millions more lost their homes.

## What Can King County Employee Giving Program Dollars Do?

*By donating through your King County Employee Giving Program, you have the power to:*

### Domestic:

- Teach families to choose healthy over inexpensive foods, which are harmful to one's health and can lead to conditions such as diabetes and obesity—the result of high fat, processed foods that so frequently make up a **low-income diet**.
- Help the more than 12 million American children suffering from poverty that infects every aspect of their lives—from family relations, to school friendships to **dreams for the future**.
- Make sure earthquake-prone communities are prepared for future disasters by **stocking up** on food, clean water, non-prescription drugs and supplies, such as batteries. Earthquakes are among the most frightening and devastating of natural events—they strike without warning, allowing no time for preparation or evacuation.
- **Save lives** by ensuring simple measures, from early warning systems, evacuation and rescue training to first aid, are taken.

### International:

- Contribute to the **relief supply distribution** (including food, shelter materials and hygiene essentials), water and sanitation services and re-establishment of family links to the already vulnerable communities in developing countries impacted by natural disasters.
- Provide shelter and warm blankets for **displaced or refugee** families in Asia so they can get a good night's sleep.
- Participate in building seawalls and dikes, planting mangroves, sandbagging sections of rivers and building evacuation centers in the Philippines. Experts suggest that miles of floodwalls may be vulnerable to **future breaches**.
- Assist earthquake survivors with the **improvement** of primary health care services, the reconstruction of vital public infrastructures, such as schools, water, sanitation and health facilities.
- **Rebuild** houses and communities destroyed by an earthquake in El Salvador.